





# THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1862.

## State Matters.—The Government.

There are two things evident in connection with State matters during the present year. Either the people of North Carolina are to choose a Governor for themselves or they are to have one put over them by Abraham Lincoln. Few would that we could say none, but few certainly desire to see such a degradation, such a ruinous consummation as the very possibility of the latter occurrence presents to the view of every honorable and true man in the State.

If such a catastrophe is to be averted, does it not appear evident to even the meanest comprehension, that the people of the State, equally with the people of the whole Confederacy should be a unit, and that all causes of division, or risk of division, of the drawing of party lines, or the stirring up of local or sectional jealousies, or the revival of old animosities, should be removed, or at least avoided?

If this be so, and we think it will hardly be disputed it would seem that the stamping of the State, the canvass by rival aspirants, the bitterness of politicians, ought of all things to be avoided, and if there be individuals who will not avoid it, then the remedy remains with the people. Let them say they do not want it and will not have it, and will not vote for any man who will insist upon it, and the thing is at an end. Let it be understood that the man who is first in pushing for a canvass, will be last when the votes are counted out, and there will be less desire to rally parties for self-advancement.

Possibly we may not quite understand the position of what seem to be parties in this State. We had thought that, for the present at least, and for the purposes of achieving independence, there was but one party; we think so still. If there be any number of persons who desire to organize or keep alive party feeling for other objects, no matter how disguised, we can hardly accord to them the name of parties, for no matter how numerous they may be, their aims are certainly factional, and cannot be patriotic.

With others, we thought, after the formation of the Southern Confederacy, that the place of North Carolina was beside her Southern sisters, and not with the Northern States, that had chosen Lincoln on a basis of avowed anti-Southern sectionalism. At any rate, it appeared to us that whatever our private opinions might be, the logic of events would work out that conclusion as it did. Others again did not agree with us in regarding the issue as inevitable, and at the election held in the spring of last year, the question of calling a convention was decided in the negative, and, although on this account, the members chosen did not meet, we think it more than probable that had they met, there would have been a majority against any action at that time. To this decision, adverse to our views, we submitted like good citizens. "The we" in this case is not used in the editorial sense, but indicates those with whom we coincided in opinion.

Events, however, progressed rapidly. Every hope of compromise or reconciliation passed away. The so-called "peace Congress" could effect nothing, because the Northern delegates would yield nothing. All the efforts of John J. Crittenden and other compromisers failed. The hearts of the Northern Pharaohs were hardened. The people of the border, or semi-border States, who had sent delegates to the peace Congress, or who had made other efforts at compromise, saw themselves pressed to the wall. They saw that if they remained, they would be wholly powerless for their own protection in the Union, deprived, as they would be, of the co-operation of the seven States already seceded, and thus powerless, they would be not only weak, but contemptible. Of the results of this attempt at compromise, carried to a certain extent, we may point to prostrate Maryland, betrayed by her false-hearted Governor, and bound hand and foot to be crushed and trampled beneath the iron heel of a contemptible despotism; to Missouri, with her best and bravest tracked by foreign mercenaries; to Kentucky, divided against herself.

If we would realize what our position might have been had we remained united with the Lincoln government, it is only necessary for us to point to the humiliations to which old Mr. Crittenden and others representing or assuming to represent slave States at Washington, are subjected; we need only turn to the debates in the Lincoln Congress, to the abolition measures passed in contempt of their begging appeals. Let us listen to the bullying speeches of such men as Hickman, Lovejoy and others. Surely there is enough in the extracts from the debate in the Federal House of Representatives, given in to-day's paper, to prove that a seat in that body could be no place for a representative from North Carolina.

As the Northern programme more fully revealed itself, we felt that we were indeed drifting rapidly towards the rocks upon which we would split, and in this critical emergency it was not the time for any one to cry "Watch and Wait." It was the time to arouse the people to a sense of the impending danger. Acting upon this belief, a meeting of citizens representing a number of counties was held at Goldsboro, on the 22nd and 23rd days of March, 1861, which passed the following preamble and resolutions, and adjourned to meet again in Charlotte on the 20th of May, following:—

WHEREAS, The general Assembly of the State of North Carolina recently in session, passed by the Constitutional majority, an act authorizing the people of the State, at their discretion, to call a Convention for the consideration of the relations of the State of North Carolina to the Federal Government, or agency of the United States, and to the different States composing the Union or Confederacy known as the United States; and whereas, the citizens of North Carolina, ardently attached as they have been and still are to the institutions under which they have been raised, and which have been transmitted to them from their revolutionary ancestors, and which have been unwilling to recognize the fact that these institutions, and the true principles upon which they were founded have been totally subverted, and if such act were recognized have still hoped that some plan of compromise and reconciliation might be effected; and whereas further events have sufficiently and conclusively shown that so far, all efforts to obtain any proper and satisfactory adjustment of the threatened rights of the Southern States, (and North Carolina claims to be, in the fullest sense of the word a Southern, and not merely a border State), have failed, and we believe will fail, be it therefore

Resolved, That the interest as well as the honor of North Carolina naturally and imperatively demand that her political connections, hereafter, should be with her sister States of the South, and not with the States of the North, opposed to her, as they are, in social institutions and in pecuniary interests, and enemies, as they have shown themselves to be, in both relations.

2d. Resolved, That we respectfully recommend the formation of an organization, to be known as the Southern Rights party of North Carolina, whose object it shall be to disseminate the facts and present the arguments bearing upon this issue, to the people of every county in the State of North Carolina, believing that when the facts prior as well as subsequent to the day of election, (28th of February, 1861), are fully understood by the people of North Carolina, the Governor and General Assembly, an opportunity to so express their views on the subject of secession, will be afforded.

3d. Resolved, That for the purpose of disseminating these facts and presenting the arguments deducible therefrom, we suggest, first, that the President of this meeting appoint a State Executive Committee of two persons from each Congressional district whose duty it shall be to adopt all honorable and proper means for carrying out the objects and defending the principles of the Southern Rights party of North Carolina.

4th. Resolved, That we respectfully recommend to the Southern Rights citizens of each county in the State, to form at the earliest practicable time, county organizations whose proper executive officers shall be in correspondence with the Southern Rights State Executive Committee.

5th. Resolved, That the State of the Federal Government, on the soil of North Carolina, were intended to defend and protect, and not to enslave or subjugate her citizens, and that any additional force placed in such a position, without the request, but against the wishes of the people and of the Executive of the State, must be regarded as a menace and as a preliminary step to subjugation, which, as North Carolinians, we must not only denounce, but in the last resort, resist at all hazards.

The holding of this meeting at Goldsboro, elicited an amount of curiosity and abuse to which we received

no parallel in this State, and we question if even the archives of Yankee journalism could produce any abuse of the "rebels" at all comparable to it in raucousness. Of it the most awful things were said in advance, yet when its proceedings came out they rather surprised the swift wit, and that continually. We pass these things now as we passed them then, because of the fact that their coarse and undignified malignity deprived them of all possible influence, or claim to notice. We have quoted the resolutions of the meeting simply that they may give their positive contradiction to the following from a recent issue of the Raleigh Standard:

"In March, 1861, a convention or meeting of original secessionists, composed of old Whigs and old Democrats, was held in Goldsboro. A new party was formed, as the proceedings show, called the *States Rights party*; and it was resolved by that meeting that the State should be taken out of the Union by a revolutionary movement, to be consummated at Charlotte on the 20th of May. But South Carolina fired on Fort Sumter in April, and Mr. Lincoln then drew the sword on the cotton States."

There is no warrant for the assertion that the Goldsboro meeting did any such thing as is asserted by the Standard. It passed no such resolution. It contemplated nothing but what was done even sooner than had been anticipated. By the time that the Charlotte meeting could have organized to take measures for the promotion of any end the State Convention, of which the Editor of the Standard was a member, had actually accomplished that end. The Charlotte Convention was not held, but the State Convention was held at Raleigh, and if the Goldsboro meeting is to be denounced on suspicion of revolutionary aims, what shall be said of the State Convention, which did all that the Goldsboro or Charlotte meetings could have aimed at? But now, forsooth, because Mr. Johnston of Charlotte voted for Mr. Edwards of Warren to be President of the State Convention, Mr. Johnston is therefore to be proscribed and declared unworthy of support. Mr. Edwards, of Warren, took part in the meeting at Goldsboro; that was the extent of his offending, but so heinous indeed does it still seem in the eyes of the Raleigh Standard, that it not only attaches the brand of ineligibility to Mr. Edwards himself, but communicates it to all who venture to exercise their own judgment, and by voting for Mr. Edwards set the dictum of the Standard at defiance. And this from a paper that assumes to speak against partyism!

We allude to these matters as essential to the truth of history, not as wishing to revive any disputes connected with the past. The revival is not ours. It has been brought up within a week by the Raleigh Standard. For our own part we have felt that we could afford to indulge in no such disputes and have ignored them, although we are free to say that while willing to do so, we were certainly unwilling to submit to the dictation of those who had so unqualifiedly abused all those whose fault it was that they saw sooner than some others what was coming. We supported for the Senatorship Mr. Davis who was not an original secessionist; we co-operated in the Goldsboro meeting with gentlemen from this town who had been warm Union men even after, and a good while after Mr. Lincoln's election; we have never taken any ground of opposition to any man merely because his judgment did not arrive at the same conclusion as ours at the same time that we did, for that all did eventually, we must take for granted, unless we call in question the sincerity of the members of the State Convention who, without exception, signed the ordinance of secession. But on the other hand, while acknowledging the right, the propriety, the duty, the policy, the necessity of burying all past animosities, ignoring all past differences so far as all others are concerned, it surely cannot be expected that we should consent that these animosities and differences should remain in full force and effect as against ourselves and those with whom we acted. That indeed would be reciprocity with a vengeance. And yet the opposition to Mr. Johnston assumes to be based in part, not that he himself took part in the Goldsboro meeting but that he did not go to the extent of proscribing those who did!

We have perhaps devoted too much time and space to this matter, but as we seldom offend in that way, and may not do so again for a good while, we trust to be forgiven. That we have displayed no more partisan spirit, we think we may appeal to our past course to prove—that we intend to pursue none our future course will show. We prescribe none—we never were called secessionists *per se*. We trust that the only difference between ourselves and others of our fellow citizens, was that we arrived sooner than they at the conclusion of the existence of a necessity to which all eventually came. It was a difference in our relative apprehension of the state of facts, no radical divergence of opinion, as was shown by the unanimity exhibited when the facts became fully developed. We have not been backward to denounce what we thought wrong or impolitic, simply because it might be done by those in authority with whom we have had political associations, neither have we joined in any indiscriminating or factious opposition to the acts or measures of those in authority, for of the two faults we think the last the most inexcusable at a time the difficulties of the country require that there should be accord to the Government, State and Confederate all the moral strength and support that can honestly be given.

We want for Governor a good, strong-minded, honest, earnest man, whose heart is in the work, whose whole soul is devoted to the cause, who can inspire others with his own zeal, who will not only work himself, but be the cause of work in others. We care not from what former wing he comes, so he possesses these qualifications, neither do we care whether he comes from the East or from the West. The man for the times is the desideratum, not political triumph or personal advancement, or a party canvass or anything that might prove even the slightest risk of division among our people.

It is easy enough, we think, to define pretty satisfactorily what the man to be elected to fill the gubernatorial chair of North Carolina ought to be, but when we approach the question of who that man is to be, we become deeply conscious of the delicacy of the discussion. It is evident, however, that that question also must be decided. All that are named cannot be elected. Many may be nominated but only one chosen. To avoid divisions of any kind, it is desirable that opinion should be quietly concentrated in some way, and that the people generally should agree upon the man whom they will call to the high honorable but still more highly responsible position of Chief Executive officer of the State.

We put out of the calculation altogether, the duty of adjudicating upon the claims of rival aspirants. These things ought to have no place in the present picture. The country alone has claims. Aspirants for individual promotion ought to stand aside, or merge their personal ambitions in self-sacrificing efforts for the common good. But while this is so, it is not to be forgotten that the friends of prominent citizens may insist upon the fitness and capability of their respective favorites, as affording reasons why they should be chosen, even if they do not constitute claims to be urged in their behalf, and this outside partisanship may not be at all chargeable to any individual efforts or manoeuvres of the gentlemen whose names are or may hereafter be used.

Much the greater portion of the names brought forward in this connection, are those of gentlemen residing West of Raleigh, and it may be said that the papers at and West of Raleigh, have had the discussion of this matter pretty much in their own hands, the fact being that the people and the papers of the East have had their eyes too earnestly fixed upon other points, than

thoughts too firmly concentrated upon other matters, to indulge in any premature speculations upon the result of an election to be held in August next. To this may be added the fact, that the papers of the East are now few and far between. Their number has grown small by degrees, and beautifully less. Perhaps, also, the idea has gained strength, that inasmuch as the two Confederate Senators were chosen from, though not by the East, to the West should be conceded the selection of the next Governor, even although the last regularly elected Governor was from the West. There may be some force in this, though less, we think, than appears to be attached to it in some quarters. We mention this, however, simply as a fact, without proposing to discuss it at the present time.

Some time we respectfully solicited a suspension of all the irritating discussions which seemed likely to arise upon this and upon other subjects. We renew that request. There is no need for haste. We have nearly four months before us. We have half of April, and all of May, June and July between us and the State elections. Three months and a half in such times as these, are equal to ages at other times. We know not what a day or an hour may bring forth; what nicely laid plans may be disconcerted; what opinions may be changed; what unforeseen action may be called for.

The State Convention will assemble on Monday next, the 21st, and even in that body, although authoritative, and although its members are paid for their attendance, it is much to be doubted whether the Eastern portion of the State will be fully represented. How much less then the chance of any adequate representation being present at a mere voluntary Convention, without power, without party stimulus, and generally without personal motive. If party stimulus is expected to be given to any voluntary State Convention, such body had better not meet at all, under the present state of things. If personal motive—the desire for individual promotion, is to draw particular parties together, we have no ambition to bear a hand at turning the gridstone upon which they may seek to sharpen their private axes. We are for, with all due to civility to every man of our most respected contemporaries, to dissent from the proposition to hold a Convention. The dislocation of party organizations has left available no machinery adequate to bringing out a full or fair representation, even if the state of the times was favorable, which it is not.

May we be permitted to make a suggestion, and we do it with all respect to the views of others. First, permit us to assume that a stump canvass would look strangely indecorous with so many of our citizens absent in the field:—Second, that a heated canvass through the papers would be only less so:—Third that all agree in applying the language of Patrick Henry in the first Revolution to our present position in this, that "it is now too late to retire from the contest. There is no retreat but in chains and slavery;" and that to avoid this it is the duty of all to forget self—to ignore former disputes and heart-burnings, and act with that unity and harmony so essential to success. That in this feeling the conductors of the several papers throughout the State meet at Raleigh on the 20th day of next month, to consult together in a spirit of patriotism in reference to the course to be pursued by the press of the State, so that it at least may exert a harmonizing and conservative influence, and not be responsible for any divisions or unnecessary excitements. Between now and the 20th of May many things which are now dark will be made clear, many important movements, now impending, will have taken place; public opinion will by that time, perhaps, have assumed a more tangible form, while the presence of the Convention, will give to the representatives of the press opportunities for adding to the knowledge of the wishes of the people in the different sections which they may already have acquired, and of enabling them to agree upon an intelligent and harmonious course of action. If they can agree upon supporting one man, so much the better. If they cannot, they can at least agree not to engage in criminations or recriminations discussions themselves, nor allow their columns to be used for this purpose by others, nor sanction merely personal aspirations or demagogical appeals or stump orations.

We have assumed that the State Convention will remain in session for at least a month. Judging from the past history of that body, we may fairly assume that it will remain much longer. There are several things that it seems that it ought to, and indeed ought to have done long since. There are other things that it seems it had better let alone, but which it will be certain to take up. A consideration of these matters is not necessary to the subject we have been discussing, and will come more appropriately in a different connection.

May we not ask of our State contemporaries to consider our suggestion and make some response. We speak in all singularity, and not without reflection.

From Florida.

We have a letter from a friend in Florida dated about a week since, which gives us some items of information about things in that State, the most important of which are as follows:

"I am happy to inform you of the entire safety of the rifles and munitions recently brought into Smyrna by the 'Carolina.' Fifty wagon loads have already passed through this place, and within the next week, the balance will be several hundred miles out of the enemy's reach. \* \* While occupying both Fernandina and Jacksonville, in force, the Yankees have not yet ventured into the interior, although they threaten, I understand, to march through the State from East to West and conquer us within sixty days.

"Our forces (Confederate and State) are now within three miles of Jacksonville, endeavoring to draw the enemy out from his gunboats, but have thus far effected little more than capturing all the enemy's pickets who venture outside the limits of the town.

"Our guerrilla parties occupy nearly every hammock and cross-road in the East, and have already struck terror to the enemy by their bold attacks upon their pickets. Florida, I think, will be able to take care of herself."

The Gunboat Fund.

We acknowledge the receipt of a check for Fifty Dollars from James Dawson, Esq., for the Gunboat Fund, and also of Twenty Dollars for the same Fund from Sergeant Thomas E. Lawrence of Howard's Cavalry, which will be turned over to the proper Committee.

We would remark that Wm. A. Wright, Esq., is Chairman and acting Treasurer of the Gun Boat Committee.

In this connection, we would state that we received yesterday the following letter. As it expresses its object plainly we can most satisfactorily comply with its request by copying it in full:—

LUMBERPORT, N. C., April 14th, 1862. MESSRS. EDITORS: Please announce in your paper that Mrs. Daniel French and Mrs. Capt. Godwin have opened subscriptions in Lumberton, Beaufort county, to aid in building an iron-clad Gunboat for the defence of Wilmington, and they will gladly receive any contributions, no matter how small. No doubt there are many who will say would gladly contribute, but have no money. To remedy this excuse, please state that they will gladly receive produce of any kind, which can be left either at Mr. D. French or J. C. McQueen's store, where it will be sold and the money appropriated to the building of the Gunboat.

Very respectfully,

F. GODWIN.

The capture of Island Number Ten is asserted by a special telegraphic correspondent from Memphis, to the Atlanta Confederacy. The dispatch is dated at Memphis on the 9th. It may be so, but we think it more than doubtful. The telegraph will soon put the matter to rest one way or the other.

This telegraphic message is a most interesting one, something, whether it be good or bad, reliable or unreliable, our readers must decide for themselves. It appears to be certain that the enemy is about to make his greatest effort on the Southern Peninsula of Virginia. His forces are gathering around Hampton Roads in immense numbers, and his fleet threaten Norfolk and Yorktown, while the peninsula itself, nowhere over five miles wide in its lower part, is at one point only seven miles wide. Washed on one side by the James River, and on another by the York, and rounded off at its lower extremity by Fort Monroe, which looks and is a strong position, the Peninsula offers to the invaders an opportunity to avail themselves of all their resources and advantages. Their forces no longer swarm on the Potomac, and the Confederates have approached Alexandria without even seeing a foe. When the battle does come off, it will be a fearful one, for the state is enormous, being nothing less than the state of Virginia. Having taken months to prepare, having assembled such a force as the world has not seen since Napoleon advanced into Russia, McClellan feels that to him defeat would be ruin, while the Confederate soldiers and leaders feel that not only their fate, but the fate of their country, is staked upon the issue, and they cannot afford to be defeated. The contest cannot long be deferred. The news of a terrible battle may startle us at any moment. We trust that our people are prepared, not only to call upon God to defend the right, but, under God, to defend it themselves, with brave hearts, strong arms, and sufficient numbers.

Ware, Richmond! all thy banners wave, And charge with all thy chivalry!

For not only the fate of the temporary seat of government, but of Eastern Virginia, and even more than that, trembles in the balance. We presume that President Davis himself will be on the field as he has intimated. He will share the fate of his soldiers in life or in death, in victory or defeat. The New York Herald thinks that the drama is soon to close with a bloody tragedy of surpassing grandeur, when McClellan is to be rewarded by the capture of the Confederate Cabinet and Congress. The boastful confidence of the Northern press and authorities is something that affords a very strange contrast to the dismal universal howl that arose after the battle of Manassas last July, and the impartial observer may well be puzzled to decide on which of the two phases of character is entitled to the largest measure of contempt.

It will be seen that the Federal papers claim a great victory at Pittsburg, as they call the battle-field of the sixth and seventh instants. They admit a loss of twenty thousand, and assert the Confederate loss at thirty-five to forty thousand. That they admit their own loss to be larger than it is, we cannot suppose, indeed their claiming a victory, shows that they will lie to make a good showing. Of our own loss, we have no official report, but it is not over one sixth of the amount stated by them. They will be certain to pour down all their hosts to endeavor to change their defeat into final victory. Reinforcements are pressed forward and General Halleck, their commander-in-chief west of the mountains, has gone to the scene of action. Buell's fall appears to be confirmed, as also the defection in a portion of the Lincoln army at Nashville. Thank God, Beauregard is not dead!

Reorganized for the War.

We learn that on the 12th instants, the 28th Regiment, N. C. T., now stationed at Kingston, re-organized for the war by re-electing Col. Lane and Lieutenant Col. Lowe, and electing Captain S. D. Lowe Major.

The larger portion of our twelve months regiments, or at least the Companies composing them, have re-entered for the war, but we think the 28th is the first to perfect its re-organization as a regiment. It will soon have many companions.

Caught.

A private dispatch from Atlanta, Ga., dated April 14th, states that the train recently stolen on the Atlanta and Western Railroad had been caught within eight miles of Chattanooga.

The Federals at Stevenson, Alabama, had come within five miles of Bridgeport, burned one bridge and returned.

VIRGINIA SMALL NOTES.—Small notes, commonly called "splainers," are frequently sent us by mail for subscriptions to the "Journal." The local value of these notes we do not know, but their value is local, or at least they will not pass here, and therefore cannot serve our purpose; so that of course we cannot receive them as payment. In fact, all notes under the denomination of five dollars, except those of the States of North and South Carolina, may be said to be uncurrent here. We beg subscribers to bear this in mind in sending for papers.

We have confused rumors of a recent collision between a portion of Spruill's and a force of the enemy, but all the accounts are so vague that we find it wholly impossible to bring any order out of them. The most current version, for which we do not vouch, is that a portion of this regiment, under Lt. Col. Robinson, had attacked a portion of the enemy, killing some and capturing others;—that subsequently, an overwhelming force came up on the other side, and succeeded not only in re-taking our prisoners, but also in capturing a number of our men. Rumor also has it that Col. Robinson was either killed, wounded or taken prisoner, neither of which, we trust, is so.

The only thing that seems to be nearly certain is, that once collision has taken place between some of our Cavalry and some of the enemy's, but how large the force on either side was, where the affair took place, under what circumstances, or with what result we cannot say. Of course it was in some of the counties adjacent to Newbern. The accounts that reach us of the doings of the Lincoln soldiers in that section are only less outrageous than the conduct of domestic traitors there.

MANY of our readers will recollect the name of the lady referred to in the following paragraph, which we find in the last Richmond Enquirer, evidently cut from the details of foreign news received by a late arrival.—Mrs. Watson was here last summer, at the time when a ship, name now forgotten, was detained here, but finally permitted to depart, as being Southern property. The vessel appears to have got out of her way, and grounded under the guns of Fort Caswell, at the time when Col. Cantwell was at that point, and Captain Jones at Fort Johnson. The vessel lay for some time at the wharf nearly opposite Messrs. Harris & Howell's:—

DEATH OF A FEMALE SLAVE TRADER.—Mrs. Watson, nee Locky, an American woman noted for being in the slave trade, has recently died at Cadix, Spain. There were three indictments against her in New York, for fitting out slavers, and she fled to Spain last summer. She fitted out slavers at Cadix, but the United States consul at that point, being advised of her movements, withdrew the registers of the vessels and they could not sail. It is said that the female slaver then resolved to drink and die. She was a native of New York.

GENERAL BRACKENRIDGE, by his most gallant conduct at the battle of Shiloh, has given the best answer to those in this State who were disposed to suspect his patriotism and sneer at his courage. Without employing the somewhat inflated language of the telegraph, that he has covered himself with glory, it is enough to say that he was among the foremost when all pressed forward, among the bravest where all were brave. We sincerely trust that the report of his being dangerously, if not mortally wounded, may prove to be groundless or at least exaggerated. It is only proper to add that the rumors to which we have alluded, did not come from his former open opponents. They recognized the gallantry of the man even while they opposed him.

One evening we were started by news received from a friend, said to be direct from the battle ground of Iry Creek or Laurel Hill, the Federals under Nelson over Marshall. We could learn no particulars, but in due course we were to learn a Cincinnati paper, where, above Nelson's signature, appeared the following announcement, that he had fought, and, after a desperate engagement, entirely routed Marshall's rebel army, killing 600 and wounding 2000 prisoners, at a cost of 60 killed and wounded on his force! The dispatch further stated that he had with him so many prisoners that he did not know what to do with them! reminding us forcibly of our infantile sympathy with that little old woman who had so many children, she did not know what to do; and, like the nursery heroine, he might have put all the prisoners in the same penal Conservatory. Poor Bally Nelson, we felt for his perplexity, more especially after he had, formed by the men who fought in this battle, the leaders as well as the led, that the entire Southern force engaged did not exceed 2500 men, (we believe the exact figures were 351.) Nelson's army, as he called it, was a *mass of mud*, as he called it, and he was caught in the contagion for the indiscriminate use of names, as to all to each its proper name; however, it is not so important as if we were writing a history of the war. We have our own duties, trying to recount all from memory, having had to destroy or burn up our notes, made at or as near as possible to the date of the action. At one or other the gallant Capt. Russ, a refugee from Catletburg, left alone on the field and covered with wounds, refusing to surrender was shot and bayoneted. From the same battle, a citizen of this town brought in the body of a former friend, whom he had found wounded and demanding to be buried, and was answered by a pistol shot from the hand of the dying man, which enraged this find, that, after killing him, he cut off his head and brought it into Catletburg for exhibition, and when it became offensive, he boiled off the flesh and preserved the skull! We were playing possum, and overheard our guards telling the story, for they were weary to conceal it from us, and no wonder; however, when we afterwards spoke of it, he denied it at first, but then acknowledged it was so. We were told the man's name, but forgot it. He was a stockholder in the town.

We regret to learn that on Friday or Saturday last the Yankees succeeded in capturing Mr. Drew, a member of Captain Hill's Company of Scotland Neck Mounted Riflemen. The Yankee scouts have been seen in Onslow County, but how far over the line we have not heard.

THE LINCOLN forces have left Jacksonville, Florida. They said they were going to participate in the operations against Savannah, upon which a movement will probably be made in a few days.

JOSEPH E. BUNTING, Esq., of this county, writes, informing us that he has a copper kettle some two feet high, two feet across, and about half an inch thick, which he is willing to give to help to build an iron-clad steamer, or any other work that it might be deemed right to build for the defence of Wilmington.

A FRIEND in Duplin county sends us the following:—MURPHY'S CREEK, April 14th, 1862. MESSRS. FULTON & PRICE:—Please inform the proper person or persons that I will give fifty dollars towards that iron-clad steamer, and will send you a check for the amount when called for. I have a small sum in bank not yet checked for. You can also mention that I have a very good white oak timber on my grounds, which will give, without charge, if it will answer any purpose towards building her. I live six miles from the Railroad. Perhaps I could send you a barrel of flour, or a barrel of salt, or a barrel of sugar, or a barrel of coffee, or a barrel of rice, or a barrel of corn, or a barrel of wheat, or a barrel of oats, or a barrel of barley, or a barrel of rye, or a barrel of clover, or a barrel of hay, or a barrel of straw, or a barrel of wood, or a barrel of coal, or a barrel of oil, or a barrel of vinegar, or a barrel of molasses, or a barrel of sugar, or a barrel of coffee, or a barrel of rice, or a barrel of corn, or a barrel of wheat, or a barrel of oats, or a barrel of barley, or a barrel of rye, or a barrel of clover, or a barrel of hay, or a barrel of straw, or a barrel of wood, or a barrel of coal, or a barrel of oil, or a barrel of vinegar, or a barrel of molasses, or a barrel of sugar, or a barrel of coffee, or a barrel of rice, or a barrel of corn, or a barrel of wheat, or a barrel of oats, or a barrel of barley, or a barrel of rye, or a barrel of clover, or a barrel of hay, or a barrel of straw, 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